Notes and Observations

Commophila Aeneana (Hubn.) in Hampshire. — I was delighted to find this beautiful moth fairly common very locally in a wood between Fareham and Wickham on 13th and 20th June, 1976. The situation was a wide grassy ride between conifer plantations, and the moths were flying in the midafternoon. Mr. D. W. H Ffennell had previously taken a single specimen about a mile away in the same wood in 1960. — John R. Langmaid, 38 Cumberland Court, Festing Road, Southsea, Hampshire.

CHLOROCLYSTIS CHLOERATA MAB. AT WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA. — Until 1970 I used regularly at the end of May and beginning of June to take in my m.v. trap a number of what I took to be C. rectangulata L. They were all very small and early in the year, but as there was then an orchard at the bottom of my garden I thought little of them and set none, especially as I was usually in the throes of packing to go to Ireland. However, last year Mr. Bernard Skinner kindly gave me four pupae of chloerata. I bred them all and found to my annoyance that they were identical with the little "rectangulata". Until five years ago there was a big blackthorn thicket in the grounds of a former school about a hundred yards away; I used to attract a good many Bapta distinctata H.-S. from it, so the source of the chloerata is obvious. Unfortunately, the site was sold for development in 1971, the house pulled down, and the grounds cleared, for enchanting bungalows! — H. C. Huggins, F.R.E.S., 65 Eastwood Boulevard, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

LATE SEPTEMBER IN SCILLY. — I spent a week on the Isles of Scilly from 20th to 27th September, 1975. Whilst birds were my main quarry at this time of year, I kept a record of butterflies seen. Based on St. Mary's, I visited St. Agnes and Tresco but saw no butterflies at all on the latter as the weather on this particular day was dull, windy and showery. I recorded the following during the week: St. Mary's: Speckled Wood (Pararge aegeria L.), common; Red Admiral (Vanessa atalanta L.), six; Small Tortoiseshell (Aglais urticae L.), four; Small Copper (Lycaena phlaeas L.), two; Large White (Pieris brassicae L.), common; Small White (Pieris rapae L.), common. St. Agnes: Speckled Wood (P. aegeria), common; Red Admiral (V. atalanta), three; Large White (P. brassicae), fairly common; Small White (P. rapae), fairly common. A westerly gale at the end of the week preceded one of the largest influxes of American birds to the Isles of Scilly (and other parts of Britain) for several years, and it will be interesting to see if this is reflected in the number of Monarchs (Danaus plexippus L.) recorded in Britain in the autumn of 1975. — G. SUMMERS, 23 West Close, Stafford, Staffs., ST16 3TG.